Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : In answer to part (c) it is stated, "that there is difficulty about accommodation and premises for the additional classes". May I know whether if any private agency starts a school grant will be given ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : That is a matter of future policy.

Alleppey-Changanacherry road and canal.

14. **Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Alleppey-Changanacherry road and canal construction work has been taken up in 1117 ; and

(*b*) if so, what progress has been made till Mithunam 1117?

Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*)

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : In view of the fact that there is provision in the Budget for 1117 may I know why the work was not taken up ?

Mr. I. C. Chacko : The Land acquisition has not yet been completed. The Land acquisition for the canal has been finished. But the road construction can be taken up only when all the lands are acquired.

FELICITATIONS TO THE OFFICIATING DEWAN.

Members had tabled the following motions of felicitations to the officiating Dewan.

1. MR. JAMES FLETCHER : This House tenders its heartfelt congratulations to Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai on his well-merited appointment as the Officiating Dewan of Travancore by His Most Gracious Highness the Maharaja and wishes him every success.

2. MR. E. K. KURIYPPE : This House offers its heartfelt congratulations to Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai on his appointment as Officiating Dewan and wishes him all success.

3. MR. N. KRISHNA AIYAR : This Council heartily congratulates and felicitates the Officiating Dewan-President Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai who has been the Official Leader of this House, on his well-merited appointment as the Officiating Dewan of Travancore and accords to him a cordial welcome as the President of this Council and wishes him brilliant success in his new and high office.

4. MR. KOCHIKAL P. BALAKRISHNAN TAMPI : This Council places on record its hearty congratulations to Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai on His Gracious Highness the Maharaja being pleased to repose in him great confidence and appoint him as Officiating Dewan ; and assures him all sincere co-operation in his labours to serve this historic land.

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5. SAHIB BAHADUR T. MUHAMED ISMAIL: This House tenders its heartfelt congratulations to Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai on his well-merited appointment as the Officiating Dewan of Travancore by His Most Gracious Highness the Maharaja, and wishes him every success.

President: I have received a few motions of felicitations. I would call upon Mr. James Fletcher to move his motion.

Mr. James Fletcher: Sir, I have great pleasure in moving the following motion: This House tenders its heartfelt congratulations to Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai on his well-merited appointment as the Officiating Dewan of Travancore by His Most Gracious Highness the Maharaja and wishes him every success.

Sir, You have been working for the public for a long time. After a brilliant College career you became a Lawyer. As a lawyer you took keen interest in all public matters. You were elected as a member of the Trivandrum Municipality for four successive terms. You have been the honorary Secretary of the Trivandrum Central Co-operative Bank Ltd. You have been elected to the Travancore Legislative Council for three terms till 1927 when your services were taken up by Government as Additional judge. From there you rose to the position of High Court Judge. At the same time you have been doing many other works in other directions also. Because you have made a special study of constitutional Law and Parliamentary Procedure, you were placed on special duty in connection with the Indian Round Table Conference. You were Political Secretary to the Government of Travancore. In every sphere of activities you showed great talents and you won the good wishes and encomiums of all who came in contact with you. Lately you were appointed as the Chief Secretary and we came in closer contact with you from that date. We found that in spite of onerous and heavy duties you found time to see every visitor and every person who came to you with a complaint and everybody who wanted to see you on State matters. We knew, Sir, that you had to over-work and spend most of your time for the public. Probably you did not get sufficient time for your rest. Your one desire was to give entire satisfaction to the public You have another advantage viz., that you were in touch with public matters; you were in touch with the people and the Government; so much so you knew what things are going on in the country; you knew what ought to be done for the people. You are more a public man than a Government officer. At this time, during the temporary absence of our illustrious Dewan, there can be no better choice for officiating Dewan than yourself. You knew his great schemes. You were with him as his trusted colleague and you knew the working of the

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various enterprises he has started in Travancore for the good of this State. It is our earnest wish that you will carry on the progressive policy initiated in this country so much so Travancore will be advancing as fast as it was doing during the last six years. When, as we hope, our illustrious Dewan returns, we will be happy to praise you for the great work you have been doing during his absence. May the almighty grant you long and prosperous life, a brilliant career and success in all your undertakings.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : സർ, നാട്ടുകാരനായ ഒരാളെ ദിവാൻജിയായി നിയമിക്കുന്നതിനു മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലേക്കു കാരുണ്യമുണ്ടായതിൽ ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള സന്തോഷം സീമാതീതമാണു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ 'വലിയദിവാൻജി' എന്നുള്ള നാമം കരസ്ഥമാക്കി പുരുങ്ങിയനാളത്തേയ്ക്കു ഇവിടെനിന്നും പിരിഞ്ഞുപോയിട്ടുള്ള സർ. സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമിഅയ്യർ ഇവിടെ പല പദ്ധതികളും ആരംഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അവ തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തോടു സഹകരിച്ചു പല വലിയകാര്യങ്ങളും നടത്തിയ ഒരാൾതന്നെ വേണം. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ ദിവാൻപദം അലങ്കരിക്കുന്ന രാജ്യസേവാപ്രവീണൻ ജീ. പരമേശ്വരൻപിള്ള അവർകളോടും അദ്ദേഹത്തോടു അടുത്തു ഇടപെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള മറ്റൊരാൾക്കും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഇല്ലെന്നുതന്നെ പറയാം. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിൽ ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെത്തന്നെ ഇവിടത്തെ ദിവാൻജിയായി കൽപ്പിച്ചു നിയമിക്കുന്നതിനു ഇടയായതിൽ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകം ന്യായമുണ്ടു്. മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലേക്കുള്ള ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാനമായ താൽപ്പര്യം ഇവിടത്തെ സകല സമുദായങ്ങളും രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ നന്മയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി യോജിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഈ താൽപ്പര്യം സഫലമാക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി അങ്ങു് അങ്ങയുടെ സർവ്വശക്തികളും പ്രയോഗിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറിയായി ഇരിക്കുമ്പോൾതന്നെ അടുത്ത ദിവാൻപദം അലങ്കരിക്കുന്നതു് അങ്ങാണെന്നു് ജാതിഭേദമെന്യേ വളരെ അധികംപേർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഈ നിയമനം രാജ്യത്തെ എല്ലാ ജനങ്ങളുടേയും ആഗ്രഹസാഫല്യം വരുത്തുന്നതിനു ഒന്നായിതന്നെ ഭവിച്ചു. അങ്ങയ്ക്കു് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗലബ്ധിയിൽ സകല വിജയങ്ങളും ഞങ്ങൾ ആശംസിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. അങ്ങു ഇവിടെനിന്നും പിരിഞ്ഞുപോയിരിക്കുന്ന ദിവാൻജി തിരികെ വരുവാൻ എത്ര താമസിച്ചാലും ആ കാലമത്രയും ഇവിടത്തെ ദിവാൻജിയായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടി അങ്ങയ്ക്കു സർവ്വമംഗളങ്ങളും ആശംസിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ വിരമിക്കുന്നു.

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Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar: Sir, on behalf of the constituency I represent, I have great pleasure in felicitating you on the well merited and high appointment as Officiating Dewan. From the official leader of the House you have become ex-officio President of this Council. In your various capacities, official and non-official, as a leading citizen as well as the most prominent member of the previous legislature, as an able Advocate and as a brilliant Judge, as the Federation Officer and the Representative of Travancore in various Boards and Committees outside the State, you have distinguished yourself and made a notable mark. You have enjoyed the privilege of working in confidence and closely with three successive Dewans and lately with the greatest of them, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. It is therefore quite in the fitness of things that you have been chosen for this high and honoured place to be the Officiating Dewan of Travancore. By your sterling qualities you have won the confidence of His Highness and the people alike and you have endeared yourself to all of us by your unfailing courtesy and charming disposition. We assure you, Sir, that you will have the hearty co-operation of all of us both inside and outside the Council and we are looking forward that your administration will be a brilliant and successful one. I wish you God-speed.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the resolution moved by my friend Mr. Fletcher. I do not want to take such time of this House in recounting your past. I must not be misunderstood when I say that I am not very much a lover of Dewanship, but at the same time, being human and being a man who has a sense of realities, I cannot forget that the Dewanship of the State is the greatest honour a subject of His Highness the Maharaja can ever aspire to; and it is indeed very proud moment in the life of the Dewan President when he has been called upon to discharge the most trusted work in the State. I believe also in this occasion in the biblical adage that every tree will be judged by its fruit and I have every confidence that judged even by that standard you or your achievements will not be found wanting.

On such a ceremonial occasion like this, I do not want to embarrass you by quoting your well-known opinions on constitutional matters which came in for eulogistic review by even such an eminent man as the late Sir. P. Rajagopalachariar. We have every hope that you will sympathise with the natural and legitimate ambitions of the people of this State and I pray God that you will be enabled to usher great things in future. The greatest glory that you may possibly get will be an act of self-extinguishment, I mean this—that great constitutional reforms may be ushered into being just after your term of office. I can assure you, Sir,

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that this House will completely stand behind you, will extend you all co-operation in your attempts to serve the Sovereign and the State. I wish you all good luck during your term of office.

Sahib Bahadur T. Mohamed Ismail: Sir, I have great pleasure to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my honourable friend of this House. You have proved yourself to be a man in the true sense of the term and you are worthy to adorn any office, not only here but even outside. Your services to the State as a non-official member of the Travancore Legislature, your services as a Judge and your services as the Federation Officer and as the Chief Secretary to Government are well-known to the people of Travancore. I hope Sir, that you will be the best and ablest Travancorean Dewan of Travancore. I do not wish to add any thing more. I only pray, may God bless you.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: I consider it a pleasant privilege to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I congratulate you, Sir, on your elevation to the highest office in the State which any patriotic Travancorean can aspire to. Sir, we on this side of the House are proud of this appointment because you were a non-official member of the Legislature for a very long time and to me and to my constituents especially, because you were representing the constituency which I have the honour to represent in this House to-day. I wish you God-speed and good luck.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: I join with my friends in congratulating you and your appointment. Sir, some years ago I had the occasion to read the reports of the Legislature. Even then I thought that Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai would adorn a very high place in the State and; that has become an accomplished fact. The experience that you have gained from Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar will, I am sure, enable you to earn a name like his, as the Dewan of the State. I pray that Lord Sri Padmanabha will shower the choicest blessings on you and make your tenure prove a great success.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, I feel very proud to speak in support of the motion so ably moved by my honourable friend Mr. James Fletcher to felicitate a son of the soil who has been raised to the highest office of trust and responsibility by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. Sir, even when you were a member of the Legislature, representing a sufficiently big constituency, it was my privilege to know about you as I happened to attend the Legislature when you were first elected to it, and as I watched the proceedings and your ability therein, I thought that

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[Mr. K. M. Kesavan.]

you would one day rise to this office. Sir, as a lawyer you built up an extensive practice and your merit was appreciated by Government, and so, you were raised as a Justice of the High Court. What you have done for the State as Federation Special Officer and for the last few months as the Chief Secretary to Government has earned for you sufficient honour and applause from all people alike. Therefore, it is no wonder that this honour has been bestowed upon you. I feel confident that you will keep up the heritage of the great Raja Kesava Das, another great Dewan of the country. With these words, I pray for your long life and success in your new office and promise the co-operation of the people whom we represent.

Mr. M. Govindan : Sir, I congratulate you most heartily on your appointment as the Dewan of Travancore. I knew you, Sir, from very early days. I have practised before you and you have practised before me. (*Laughter.*) Had I not known anything in the interim, from my mere knowledge of you, Sir, as an Advocate, I would have predicted that any responsible position that you may have to shoulder, you will discharge the duties thereof to the entire satisfaction of the people. Now, Sir, you deserve congratulations in another way. When I congratulated Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, I said that I hope that efficient arrangements would be made for the conduct of business in his absence. I find now, Sir, that you are going to be helped by one of the most competent of Travancoreans in service to-day, I mean the Chief Secretary, Mr. Kunjan Pillai. I am sure that your varied experience, your foreign travels and your very sweet and affable ways will enable you to successfully discharge the duties of this high office and will endear you to all people of the State. With these words, I congratulate you again, Sir, on your appointment to such a high office.

Miss Thresia Korah : I too join the chorus of approval expressed by this House in the matter of the selection of the Head of the State. More than anybody else Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai deserves to be elevated to this distinguished place. Apart from his world-wide experience, it is a well admitted fact that he is a perfect gentleman. In fact, in my opinion, Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai means Mr. Paremeswaran Pillai the Great. I wish you every success in this new sphere of your life.

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President: Order, order. Already half an hour has elapsed. I wish therefore to conclude this subject by making a few observations myself.

I am sincerely thankful to the honourable members of this House, my friends and colleagues, for the very generous and kindly sentiments which they have given expression to this morning in appreciation of myself. I must own that it is the proudest privilege of a subject of His Highness the Maharaja to be called upon to this office of trust and confidence, I am deeply conscious of the heavy responsibilities which have been entrusted to me temporarily by the gracious commands of our beloved Sovereign, responsibilities which have hitherto been shouldered with such conspicuous success by an outstanding personality like Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. I fully realise my own limitations and imperfections, but it will be my earnest endeavour, with the co-operation of my colleagues, official and non-official, to carry on and implement to the utmost extent possible the beneficent policy hitherto followed by His Highness' Government. And in doing so I have the good fortune to possess certain advantages. Foremost of all, I have the inestimable privilege of being guided by His Highness our gracious Sovereign, whose solicitude for the welfare and happiness of the people knows no bounds. Secondly, during the last ten years and more I have been closely associated, as has been rightly remarked, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and his work; and being fully conversant with the ideals and tendencies of the policy underlying many of his administrative measures and schemes of public utility undertaken during his stewardship of the State, it might not be difficult for me to establish that continuity of policy so essential for the successful fruition of those schemes. Thirdly, my association with the Legislature of the country for a fairly long period as an elected non-official and recently as an official has also its own advantages. I need hardly remind my honourable colleagues that we are passing through difficult times and none can tell what further difficulties are in store for us. It is my sincere conviction that in this country, especially at this juncture, there can hardly be any real distinction between official and non-official. At the present time, I can conceive of the population of Travancore only as one unit, a body of workers solidly behind the unifying force of our patriotic Sovereign. The Royal House of Travancore and the Travancore State have a heritage of which they are justly proud. They are *not*, I emphasise it, they are *not*, as is often erroneously stated by even some eminent people elsewhere the creation of any external power of force or authority. Notwithstanding such pronouncements, I hope I may confidently assert, as a born citizen of this ancient land, who has

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[President.]

shared his life and being with the rest of his countrymen, that every man, woman and child in Travancore will stand united under the banner of His Highness the Maharaja to defend that heritage against aggression of every kind. We shall hold ourselves out as an example of unity and united effort, fully conscious of the realities of the situation that is fast developing around and amidst us. Let us not be carried away by slogans or blind imitation. If, to-day, Travancore, holds its head high among the political units in India, it is because of the benefits of settled and ordered government, settled and ordered rule brought about by a long and illustrious line of selfless rulers with the ungrudging co-operation and loyal support of a proud, intelligent and patriotic people. At no time in the history of this country has the need been more paramount or the call more urgent than at present when every community, class and creed should sink all differences and work together to preserve the State's integrity and to promote the true interests of its people under the fostering care of His Highness the Maharaja. My only regret, as it is yours, is that we shall be missing, though for a short interval—and I hope it will be a very short interval—the immediate presence in our midst of that veteran statesman whose resourcefulness would have been of inestimable value to us. But it is my fervent hope that our united efforts would pull us through. I feel sure that it will be the aim and endeavour of every Travancorean to create and maintain an atmosphere best suited to enable all classes of people and all shades of opinion to concentrate on the supreme need of the hour, namely, the effective resistance to the enemy knocking at our very doors and the maintenance of ordered Government with a view to foster and promote the general well-being and contentment of the many millions of His Highness' loyal and devoted people.

I once more thank you most sincerely for the very kind words which you have uttered.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT RE DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

President: Before we proceed to the general discussion of the budget, I wish to draw the attention of the honourable members to the general rules and the procedure which have to be observed in the discussion and debates in this House on the budget.

As you are already aware, the debate on the budget will begin today with a general discussion followed by the voting of demands for grants from tomorrow. The maximum of four days allowed under Rule 74 of the Legislative Rules has been allotted for the latter. The demands will be discussed in the order in which they appear in the printed list placed in your hands. The demands

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